



Army football: Desperate times for team, says head coach Jeff Monken

SPORTS, 1B

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Gaza’s graphic reality



Jenan Matari, a pro-Palestinian content creator, answers emails while at Haraz Coffee in New Brunswick, NJ, on Sept. 15. She avoids sharing graphic images, saying people will stop paying attention if they are forced “into this state of despair and discomfort.” JULIAN LESHAY GUADALUPE/NORTHJERSEY.COM

How social media is changing the way we see war

Hannan Adely
NorthJersey.com
USA TODAY NETWORK

From news photos of body-strewn battlefields during the Civil War to the television broadcast of U.S. Marines burning a village in Vietnam, war images have shocked the public and revealed the gruesome realities behind the old adage that “war is hell.”

Today, war images are no longer the sole domain of traditional news organizations that have decided what to show and when to hold back. Now, unfiltered scenes of war flood social media, uploaded by citizens with smartphones.

Nowhere is this shift more visible than in Gaza. Over two years of war, Gazan citizens and journalists have streamed photos and videos of bombed-out buildings, mangled bodies and starving children with protruding ribs and hollowed faces on sites like TikTok, X and Instagram.



An explosion in Gaza is seen from the Israeli side of the Israel-Gaza border on July 24. R AMIR COHEN/REUTERS

See GAZA, Page 5A



Senate Democrats on the night of Sept. 30 again blocked a Republican proposal to keep the government at existing funding levels through Nov. 21. AL DRAGO/GETTY IMAGES

Trump, Dems trade blame over shutdown

750K federal workers could be furloughed

**Joey Garrison, Bart Jansen,
Zac Anderson and Erin Mansfield**
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump and congressional Democrats traded blame after the federal government shut down at 12:01 a.m. ET on Oct. 1.

The White House website featured a clock counting the amount of time “Democrats have shut down the government,” while the Democratic National Committee wrote on social media, “Republicans own this shutdown.”

It marked the 15th government shutdown since 1981.

There was no immediate end in sight to the bitter standoff over funding the government: Congressional Democrats demanded health care policy changes – including the reversal of Medicaid cuts – that Trump and Republicans refused to entertain.

Senate Democrats on the night of Sept. 30 again blocked a Republican proposal to keep the government at existing funding levels through Nov. 21. The bill received 55 years, short of the 60-vote threshold to defeat a Democratic filibuster. Sens. John Fetterman,

See SHUTDOWN, Page 2A

What Adams’ absence means in NYC

Mayor leaves race while Mamdani leads Cuomo

Kathryn Palmer
USA TODAY

New York City Mayor Eric Adams’ Sept. 28 announcement that he is dropping his bid for reelection raised hopes among conservatives that Democratic nominee Zohran Mamdani, a socialist state Assembly member, can be stopped by former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who is running as an independent after losing the Democratic primary to Mamdani.

Adams, a centrist Democrat like Cuomo, was also making an independent bid after a federal indictment on corruption charges that were dropped by the Justice Department after President Donald Trump took office.

But it remains unlikely that Cuomo can surmount Mamdani’s commanding lead in recent polls if Republican nominee Curtis Sliwa remains in the race.

Basel Smikle, a professor at Columbia University and former director of the New York state Democratic Party, said Adams’ decision to leave the race a little under four weeks before early voting begins makes it harder for Cuomo to use the narrowed field to his advantage. In

fact, Adams’ name will still appear on the ballot as it’s too late to be removed.

Smikle pointed to Mamdani’s June primary upset, consistently high polling and, more recently, a wave of high-profile endorsements such as former Vice President Kamala Harris, New York Gov. Kathy Hochul and leading community organizations. The top two Democrats in Congress, both from New York City – House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer – have not endorsed.

“I think the overall narrative is going to stay the same,” he said. “You have a

See MAYOR, Page 3A



New York City Mayor Eric Adams, left, dropped out of the mayoral race but his name cannot be removed from ballots at this point. JEENAH MOON/REUTERS

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